[Translation]

Special Dispensation Admission in KVs

1335 SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :
SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to continue with the special dispensation admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). It was decided that an affidavit be filed in the High Court of Delhi by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan that rules to regulate special dispensation admissions will be formulated.

[English]

Road in Ladakh

1336. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that ZANSKAR Sub-Division of Ladakh remains cut off from the rest of the country for about 9 months in a year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the construction of NEMOPADUM Chadar road of Zanskar of Ladakh was recommended by the Government to OECF Japan for financing under their economic aid to Buddhist centres in India;

(c) whether the OECF had agreed to undertake the said project for construction; and

(d) if so, when the project will be taken in hand for construction and if not, whether the Government will undertake the construction of the said road under C.R.F. scheme, or some other Central Government scheme, or any other foreign funding scheme in view of persistent demand of the people of the area?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Being a State Road, the State Government is constitutionally responsible for its development and maintenance. No proposal for this project has been received for its inclusion under C.R.F. scheme or E&I scheme or any other foreign funding scheme.

[Translation]

Kendriya Vidyalaya in Purnea

1337. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether in 1995 the than Human Resource Development Minister had approved setting up of a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Purnea; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to set up the Kendriya Vidyalaya in Purnea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No proposal from District Authorities of Purnea has been received for setting up of a new Kendriya Vidyalaya at Purnea so far.

State Highways as National Highways

1338. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for conversion of 'Naseerabad to Dahod' and 'Ratlam to Himmatnagar' State Highways into National Highways is under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Pending Pension Cases of Ex-servicemen

1339. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that several pension cases of ex-servicemen are pending in the Ministry at present;

(b) if so, the details and reason therefor;

(c) the number out of them pending for more than three years;

(d) the details and reasons therefor, separately;

(e) the efforts made by the Government for their expeditious disposal; and

(f) the time by which all such cases are likely to be disposed of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (f). There are 280 disability/special family pension cases pending in

the Ministry. Of these 19 cases are over three years old. These cases are pending because the attributability due to service is disputed. However, in these cases admissible service pension or ordinary family pension as the case may be, has been sanctioned as per rules. Every effort is made to finalise pension cases as soon as possible

[Translation]

Cataract Operation

1340. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of blind persons in the country;

(b) whether the eye sight of those blind persons can be restored through a simple operation of cataract;

(c) if so, the number of such persons operated upon and their eye sight restored during the last two years;

(d) whether complaints have been received by Union Government regarding the slow progress made in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the action taken by the Union Government thereon;

(g) whether any strategy has been chalked out by the Government to prevent this ever increasing disease; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) On the basis of a Survey conducted in 1989 it is estimated that there are about 1.2 crore blind persons in the country.

(b) About 80% of blind persons are affected with cataract and their eye sight can be restored through Operation of Cataract.

(c) During last two years 463180 cataract operations were performed.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f). Questions do not arise.

(g) and (h). National Programme for Control of Blindness has been revamped and some of the steps taken by the Govt. in this regard are as under :

1. Stengthening of Ophthalmic infrastructure.
2. Training of Ophthalmic manpower.
3. Establishment of District Blindness Control Societies.
4. Expanding coverage to rural and tribal areas.
5. Creating awareness about the eye care among the masses
6. Revising the pattern of assistance to States/UTs and NGOs.
7. Increasing financial outlay in the annual budget and implementing the World Bank Cataract Blindness Control Project in Seven States, and
8. Strengthening the monitoring of Eye Care activities at the Central, State and District level.

Study Tour of Foreign Countries

1341. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any delegations had visited foreign countries during the last three years to conduct studies for the purpose of development expansion of Indian ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there was any member in the delegation from Karnataka;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have chalked out any long term plan for the development of ports in the country on the basis of that study; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). No delegation for the specific purpose of conducting studies for the development/expansion of Indian ports visited foreign countries during the last three years. However, there have been visits by officers to various countries like Australia, Netherlands, Phillippines, Japan, Singapore, Malayasia, U.K. etc. in connection with Port specific Projects, Port related training etc.

(c) and (d). Officers of New Mangalore Port Trust from Karnataka were deputed to countries like U.K., Japan, Singapore and Malaysia for attending various Port related management and development programmes.

(e) and (f). The various port specific studies and training programmes abroad help in formulating long term development plans of the port sector in the country. Such studies, for example, have helped in deciding the layout for the coal handling plant at Paradip Port and lay out for Ennore port.